# FORMOSA.

The Dreary March Into the Interior of the Island.

The Famous Defence of the "Stone Gate."

UNDER THE BANYAN TREES.

Particulars Regarding the Expedition to Boutan and Kusukut.

CAMP NEAR STALIAG, June 5, 1874. It is, I presume, understood that there are no authentic maps of Formosa in existence. The southern peninsula in particular remains to this day an entirely unknown region excepting to those who have personally visited it. A few attempts have been made to note down the prominent features of the country, and even to indicate the localities of some of the viringes occupied by the different tribes, but these have only been partially successful. As a matter of fact, not even the outlines of the coast have ever been accurately laid down. I have endeavored in previous letters to explain some of the difficulties that lie in the way of forming any acquaintance with the interior, and I am well aware of the hopelessness of any effort at present to give a thoroughly correct idea of the positions of the aboriginal settlements on the eastern coast and in the interior.

The expedition to Boutan and Kukusut began on the 1st instant with the departure of a body of about 500 troops for Hongkang, a settlement some six miles to the north of our present posiwas very much doubt whether the full plan of operations could be carried out. The current of e swollen rivers was so violent that at the first ford one of the Japanese was carried away and The rest of the force reached Hongkang afternoon without disaster. No enwith the natives had been anticifor the shore is occupied entirely by the descendants of the Chinese colonists, who look upon the Japanese as their deliverers from the oppressions and cruelties of the savages. The head men of Hongkang long ago came into camp and urged the officers to make their place a base of operations, as well as Sialiao. Honkang, it should be understood, is totally independent of Caina, the authority of which empire extends only as far south as Pong-li, some twenty-five

During the night of the 1st the rain gradually ceased, and the morning was as bright and clear as any we have had: too bright and clear for comfort, for the sun blazed out with an intensity which seemed likely to make rapid compensation for its long irregularities. Soon after dawn the second party of about 300 started eastward for the "Stone Gate," the scene of the skirmish of May 22. The departure of their advance guard, which took place the afternoon before, was marked by another fatal accident. A soldier was drowned in almost the same place as that of the previous day's mishap. This detachment reached its first point at noon on the 2d, and remained there or in the neighborhood for a few hours. THE THIRD COLUMN,

numbering 400 men, left the camp also on the morning of the 2d and marched to the southwest, towards Chiksia. The general purpose of these combined advances can easily be seen by a glance at the plan of villages. The headquarters of the hostile tribes were known to be Boutan and Kusukut. A few tributary settlements in their neighborhood were believed to be held by their men. and it was tolerably well ascertained that the northern roads as far as Ninal were in their possession. The cuty assigned to the Hongkang force under General Tani, was to proceed to Ninai, starting before sunrise on the 2d, and descend as rapidly as possible to Boutan. The Chiksia column, under Admiral Akamaton, was to move upon Ku-The central body, which was led by General Saigo, was to pass over the difficult road from the "Stone Gate" to either Kusukut or Boutan, as might be desirable. This road, which is in fact nothing but the roughest kind of a mountain pass, was known to be not only full of natural imiments, but also to have been artificially obstructed by the enemy-circumstances which account for the greater length of time allowed for this force to reach its destination.

A TERRIBLE TRAMP. For various reasons the foreign officers attached to the expedition accompanied the last named de-They went, I believe, as spectators only, with no design of sharing in the more active proceedings that might ensue. I chose that route, chiefly from a desire to examine with some close ness the scene of the conflict of the 22d of May, which I had become familiar with from only one side. The march, from the outset, was such as I almost shrink from even attempting to describe. Before eight o'clock the sun was at its flercest, and the hard, stony paths were so heated that the glow could literally be telt through the soles of thick shoes. Fortunately there were many streams to be forded, and although they were not passed without difficulty, being at least twice their ordipary depth, they were gladly welcomed whenever better pleased to find more of them, for though our clothes were of course drenched through and through at each passage, they were ary and stiff before we had fairly started on our way again. This was partly owing to the atter absence of shelter. The greater part of the Liangkiao valley is destitute of trees, and it is only on approaching the mountains that a healthy vegetation is found. COSTUMES IN THE TROPICS.

Some of us speedily discovered that campaigning in a savage country has at least the negative advantage of permitting a very free disregard of the exterior aspect of any of the trio of observa tion was such as would have exposed him to popular derision, if not worse, in any trans-Pacific community. I remember that on entering the village of Sijakei, and coming into the presence of the General-in-Chief, for which meeting I had endeavored to readjust myself in some slight degree. 1 was humorously congratulated by that officer of being able to go to war in my night-dress. He spoke but the fact. A suit of thin "pajamas" was all I could possibly support. This, with a straw hat, an umbrelia, and a pair of straw sandats I take to be the proper uniform for a journalist in the tropics. I had learned the value of sandais

take to be the proper uniform for a journalist in the tropics. I had learned the value of sandais years before in Japan, but strangely enough forgot my old experience, and trusted here to shoes, with pitiable results. The alternate sweiling and surinking from soaking and sudden drying was intolerably painful, in addition to which the sharp stones of the hills tore the leather to rags long before the journey was ended. The Japanese soldiers, in excursions of this kind, wear the close fitting leg-covering of their own country, from the knee to the ankie, and put nothing on their feet but their thick soft sandais, extra pairs of which they carry suspended from their waists.

UNDER THE BANYAN TREES.

As we drew near the circle of hills that marks the limits of the valley the country began to assume a more agreeable character—that is, to the eye alone. The long continued rains had freshened the verdure, which, moreover, is of a richer development inland than on the coast. As we slowly ascended we began to pass by patches of wholesome shrubbery, and presently had opportunities to pause and rest at distant intervals, under banyan trees of some magnitude. Clusters of willows were occasionally seen by the river sides; but these reliefs were infrequent, and as a rule the face of the country still maintained what would elsewhere be considered as rugged barrenness. The first hills that were really covered with trees were those in the neighborhood of and just beyond outlines of the scenery are somewhat softened by warmer colors than those of dark rock and gray sand.

ANTEASTERN THERMOPYLAE.

ANTHASTERN THERMOPYLAE. We passed through the gate about noon, and, as now have had the opportunity of examining this actural fortification from all points, I feel combiled to refer once again to that engagement in which the Japanese forced the Boutans from their hopen position, and destroyed at a single blow all heir hopes of ever meeting them with success. In ave heretofore speken too moderately of the spirit and courses displayed on that occasion. Not hav-

ing seen the commencement of the work, and not knowing the ground which the caneny occupied, it could not rightly estimate the difficulties to be overcome or the resolution required to surmount them. I am now persuaded that the taking of the "Stone Gate" by our handuit of men—there were not more than iority actually employed, although about one hundred and seventy-dve were near at hand—even against its unskilled defenders, was an act of gailantry which any soldlers in the world might justify be proud of. The situation held by the Boutans appears as nearly impregnable as any strongholic possibly can be. The sides of the "Stone Gate" are two rocky acctivities which rise at sharp abgles, and often perpendicularly in the situation of the pass of the properties of the situation has desired and the following the situation of the pass and is waist deep at its only jordable both. Except under pressure of The most DESPERATE NECESSITY.

No one would ever dream of attempting to scale these heights; and in fact no earthly power could accomplish such a task if any attempt, however feeble, were made to defend them. The crag of the right hand pillar is topped by sharp spires, not unlike the "needles" of the Chamouni valley in lorm, though of course much smaller, and certainly as forbidding in their defiance to intruders. But over this barrier a score of Japanese marines did acctually pass, with a view of assailing the savages from above. Before the action really began, a few shots were fired at the advancing line from a rude fortification that had been thrown up just within the right side of the gate—that is, to the lett of the besiegers. Whether this was intended only as an outpest or not I cabnot say, but it was hurriedly abandoned on the approach of three of the unattached volunteers of whom have spoken, who took possession of it and remained there you can be a subject of the search of the course of time some twenty-live other Japanese came into the pass, carelessly and without precaution, as is their injudeious custom, an

A LITTLE NEARER THE ENEMY.

were mistaken for Chinese, and were brought across the peninsula to the hearest Chinese speaking inhabitants, not from motives of numanity, but in the hope of getting a reward; that the Chinamen did not recognize the castaways and refused to ransom them; that they were then told that unless they paid \$100 the sailors should be tilled on the spot, to which they answered that they did not care, and, according to one story, were ready to assist in the slaughter. It is even stated by some that they did join in the wholesale work of destruction. It is impossible to say to what extent these reports may be trusted, but they are not in themselves unreasonable, and the undoubted fact that the remains of the murdered men are on the spot in question gives a certain weight to them.

At three o'clock in the alternoon the laborious mountain climbing began. We had forded a dozen or more streams before we came to a ledge of rock, which had to be scaled in genuine Alpine fushion—to walk up it would have been as impossible as to dance a landago on a mansard roof—and which marked the entrance to the real Bottan and Kusukui possessions. I do not know that any purpose could be served by describing in detail the latigues of the successive ascents. An idea of their general character may be taken from the fact that a steady upward march of four hours—that is, until sundown—carried us only three miles. At five o'clock we passed over a lofty ridge, overlooking a deep valler, on the other side of which puffs of smoke were seen rising, volleys of musketry being heard at the same time. A PATHETIC PICTURE.

The Sorrows of a Poor Young Man-The Three Orphans on the Steamer Mary Powell-Is Randail's Island a City

On Saturday afternoon the steamer Mary Powell sailed from the foot of Vestry street at the usual hour. Her spacious decks and luxurious cabins were crowded with the well dressed throngs esand other pleasant summer refuges in the High-lands of the Hudson River. As the noble steamer glided by the Palisades and the passengers were settled comfortably on the decks and in the hola murmur like a musical chorus, and bubble of laughter from the hundreds pleasure seekers on board that made one forget utilitarian New York and connect the scene with picturesque groups on a Rhine boat or the lazy crowds with colored robes that might be gathered on a Sultan's yacht skimming over the blue waters of the Bosphorus. Waiters were hurrying here and there, children were romping under the awnings with babblings like the notes of unknown birds, while bountiful nature herself was bathed in the glory of the summer sunlight and scarcely a shadow clouded her fair bosom. The turrets and gables of many a picturesque villa uprose from the terraced lawns on the eastern shore of the storied stream, and from many a crag upon the heights the waving of an American flag was the only sign that an American home was peacefully shrined upon an eyrie along-On the lower decks of the Powell, however,

them succeeded in shifting their position to points

\*\*A LITTLE NEARRE THE RNEMY.\*\*

This manœuvre was several times repeated, a solder rising purposely, in case of need, to draw the fire of the defenders. By these means all the Japanese gradually worked themselves closer, but the progress was so slow and the number of the wounded increased to such an extent that the officer in command, colonel Sakuma, ordered the bugles to sound a recall. Nobody could misconstrue such a command, colonel Sakuma, his reputation for bravery in action having been long ago established; but as the greatest of English sallors was once blind to a signal for retreat, so these ardent pioneers were deaf to this unwelcome strain. Not to put too fine a point upon it, I suppose I must admit that they disobeyed orders; but I have not heard that anybody has since greatly blamed them for it. I afterwards heard one of these coalumactous warriors, when called upon to give his reason for not returning, say that it would have been more dangerous to go back than to advance, and that mere prudence would have kept him where he was. He was reminded, however, that he had been seen to leave his place, rejoin the main body, and then return to the fighting ground; to which he answered, with some embarrassment, that it was true; but he had been compelled to do as he did, as he had a wounded comrade, who had been shot, just beside him, in the arm and the stomach, to assist to the rear.

DISLODGING THE SAVAGES.

Thus irregularly, and with no directions except those suggested to their own minus by the participators, the contest went on for nearly an nour, the Japanese steadily, though very slowly, getting nearer their opponents. It might be supposed that a sudden rush would have put an end to the business, as, indeed, it would have done on dry land in anything like a lair field. But here the solders were up to their waists in a stream, the current of which was so powerful that they could only with great effort force their way against it. The best and onsist i among the freightmen and the loungers, there was a pathetic picture. Near a great coil of the steamer's rope a man sat despendent. He seemed not to enjoy the glorious sky nor the baimy air; the laughter of the moving groups did not fill his heart with the echoes of their music. His face was buried in his hands, and through the fingers slowly trickled tears. It was a piteous picture right in the face of joyous mirth, and it needed out a pause for the gay crowd to perceive the cause of his distress. But men look upward when they want to laugh, and but few idle men or women gazed downward on that prone man who watched—what? Only three sleeping babies. "Only that and nothing more." A man with a heart more tender than the rest stopped a moment and looked upon the picture. Was it a fraudulent appeal to human sympathy? Was it one of the many devious plans by which unworthy beggars move the sympathies of the charitable? No, there was something gaunt and despairing in the man's face and mien. That those were his children was evidenced by the almost womanly care with which he covered the unconscious ones with his tattered coat and kept the hot sunshing irom their faces. He made no appeals. The man was alone on that crowded right in the tace of joyous mirth, and it needed the unconscious ones with his tattered coat and kept the hot surshine from their faces. He made no appeals. The man was alone on that crowded boat, face to face with his sorrow and despair, and to him the scenery and champagne air, the merry laughter and the music of happy human voices were heard as in a dream. The sympathetic stranger addressed the man. He looked up and repited without appeal, without interest. He said he was a stone mason, out of work, poor, hopeless. Yes, these were his three children. Tom, there, was almost big enough to work; Margie, she was seven, and Mary almost five. They were worn out, poor things, and he, their father, was almost worn out, too. God help 'em. Where were they going? Well, up the river—somewhere, anywhere, to get away from the cold town out into the green fields, where he could earn enough to keep breath in the children's bodies. Was the mother dead? Of course she was, or what would he be doing with the poor darlings away from her? Had he ever tried to get the children placed in some of the charitable institutions in New York, so that he might be free of their care and better able to work for their support? Certainly he had. He had tried kandall's Island for instance—a pretty place that, where they first degraded a man, and held the threat over his children that if he did not promptily pay his \$5 or \$9 a month to the Commissioners that they would "larm" 'em (the children) "out." "Farm" his children out—God bless em! he would die with them on the President's highway, struggling to beg, to work for 'em, or to die with them, before children) "out." "Farm" his children out—God bless em! he would die with them on the President's highway, strogging to beg, to work for 'em, or to die with them, before they should be "farmed" out. What was his name? Why Thomas Cronin, and not ashamed oi it either—an honest workingman, who had tried to do his best to take care of the little ones, and here they were at last—poor little devils—lor no fault of theirs, with no food in their stomachs and no snelter belonging to them but his ragged coat.

If peed not be told how the stomachs.

the river banks, leaving sixteen of their number dead behind them. Of those who escaped fourteen were mortally wounded, among taem the leader of the Boutan tribe. Of the number of less severely wounded we have never had any account. Our own casualties were six killed and thirty wounded, all of the latter of whom will recover, including one whose case was at first considered deaperate.

THE SCENE OF THE VICTORY.

Such was the gallant little skirmish of "Stone Gate," a complete understanding of the difficulties of which cannot be conveyed by words. The place will presently be photographed and I hope that a clearer idea of its massive strength may in due time be thus imparted. That it was a brilliant affair for the Japanese is doubly fortunate, for they are not likely to have other opportunities of distinguishing themselves. The savages were taught enough in that single lesson to keep them from attempting to squarely controlt taeir conquerors in future.

PORWARD, OVER ALL OBSTACLES. oat.
It need not be told how the simple story went to If need not be told how the simple story went to the heart of the stranger; how his sympathetic nature was aroused and the poor fellow was made glad for the little orphaned wails, nor how his example was followed quickly by a score of men with hearts in their bosoms, who only needed an example to teach them that charity is greater than all the virtues. Here is a chance for some Catholic institution to do practical good for more than a generation.

#### RAZAINE AT STE. MARGUERITE.

Recent Interview with a Visitor-His Companions in Prison-Preference for Italy as a Place of Residence. An Italian gentleman visited Marshal Bazaine in

his prison at Ste. Marguerite on the 16th of last month (July), and had a long interview with the captive. He communicated to the Perseveranza Milan some particulars of the conversation that took place which possess considerable interest in view of recent circumstances. The writer states that the captivity of the Marshal was shared by Madame, their three sons, aged respectively three, five and seven, Colonel Vallette, who refused to abandon his general, and two servants, none of whom were allowed to pass beyond the narrow strip of garden facing the building. The Marshal, or as he was called M. Bazaine, made inquiries of his visitor as to the progress of the lialian army and the improvements being made in it. He asked for General Della Marmora and other generals whom he had known in Italy, and stated that if his lot underwent any change he should settle with his family in that country. He described himself as

A SCAPEGOAT.

but manifested no bitterness toward his judges or the French government, regarding himself as the victim of untoward circumstances. He spent his time in reading and writing on the events in which he was an active participant and waiking shared by Madame, their three sons, aged respect-

inguishing themseives. The savages were taught enough in that single lesson to keep them from attempting to squarely controut tacir conquerors in future.

Porward, over all obstacles.

The passage of the "stone Gate" was not without its hardships, even when no enemy was athand to dispute hie way. The ford was now somewhat hazardous, and a number of men had lost their foothoid while attempting to cross and had been swept down stream, napplity, without serious consequences. This had happened before our arrival, and I was, therefore, surprised to see numbers of officers clambering over an improvised path among the rocks of the left side of the gate, or the right, as we faced up stream. It seemed the correct thing to do, and I, therefore, followed, as often on hands and knees as on feet; but discovered, after having gone half way, that it was certainly impracticable for me. So I returned, waded the river at one point and pushed up to the recrossing ford. I had worked myself half way over and was filed with self-congratulation, when my attention was attracted by a singular retrogressive movement on the part of the staff, which I paused to contemplate from MY HALF SUBMEROED STANDPOINT.

Presently the General-in-Ohief descended the mit which he had just chimbed and gave rapid orders, in consequence of which "cooless" came out, like skirmishers, into the river, and an officer of the Quartermaster's bepartment, wearing nothing but a most benevolent smile, planted himself in what appeared to me a uselessly uncomfortable and exposed position in the midst of the current. The whole proceeding was utterly obecure, but I saw my-seli beckoned, and recognized the impossibility of waiting to investigate it. So I moved orward, and in three sirides found myself in water good of the current. The whole proceeding was utterly obecure, but I saw my-seli beckoned, and recognized the impossibility of waiting to investigate it. So I moved orward, and in three sirides found myself in water good of the contraint of the proceeding was a str the victim of untoward circumstances. He spent is time in reading and writing on the events in which he was an active participant and waixing with the faithful Vallette. His letters, books and newspapers were inspected by the Governor of the prison, which contains no kitchen, and his meals, therefore, were supplied from the canteen the same as for the other officials. He has received very kind letters from the Pope, the ex-Queen of Spain and irom leading Bonapartists, including the Empress Eugenie. Considering that Mme. Bazaine has stated that she with a relative are alone responsible for her husband's escape, and that, according to the Italian writer, she was subjected to the same restrictions, while in the prison, as the Marshai, the matter wears a strange aspect. Governor Marchi, the Governor of Ste. Marguerite, charkes Colonel Vallette with being the chief agent in the matter, but it remains for an official investigation to get at the truth. Bazaine's expression of preference of Italy for a permanent residence was made very probably to please his visitor.

The interment of the late Officer Edward McGrath, of the Sixth precinct, took piace at one clock yesterday from his sister's residence, No. 261 Mulberry street. It will be remembered that

THE PUNERAL OF OFFICER M'GRATH.

here to avenge. It struck me as a most surprising coincidence that here, upon the threshold of
the entrance to the Boutan country, the troops
should be thus strikingly reminded of the cause
of their coming. It was a circumstance so totally
outside of all expectation that it seemed incredtible. The Metako islanders had been cast ashore
upon the opposite coast, six or seven miles away
if a divect like, and probably twice as many by the
mountain paths. But the inscriptions, which
were explicit, left no doubt upon the subject, and
abundant confirmation was obtained by subsequent inquiries.

THE EXPLANATION OF THE MYSTERY,
if the intelligence which I can get from the Liangkiao people be trustworthy, is that the wrecked
party, on failing into the hands of the Boutans.

### HAWAII.

The New Ministry Acting as a Wholesome Check Upon the Assembly.

The Proposed Reciprocity Treaty with the United States.

THE FINANCES OF THE ISLANDS.

HONOLULU, July 29, 1874. The topic of the past month has been the state of the country, and upon this subject there has been a strange diversity of opinion. The man who is involved sees everything in the last stage of decay, but this is not so strange-it is the old story of the jaundiced eye. The comparatively well-todo are also decrying everything, predicting ruin unless something is done, and 'he thing to be done no two can agree upon. The government comes in for a fair share of abuse because it fails to initiare something, just what no one seems to know, The credit of the government being sound, the planters want it to borrow money and loan to them at low rates of interest, for they cannot bor-

row just now at any rate. A grand foreign loan scheme has been hit upon as the panacea for all the ills of the individual and the public generally. This loan idea has rallied quite a respectable following, or perhaps I should say, had until the "hard up" captured the scheme and so framed the bill for the Assembly that it was a veritable Omnibus Bill; every one was to be provited for but the takers of the loan : paper money was to be "shoved" upon the community and the assistance of future Assemblies was rendered unnecessary by a provision that a committee of five or six persons were to manage the finances of the

THE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENT in the Assembly managed by amendments to put the bill into better shape by striking out the paper money feature and providing that the loan shall be paid in coin as well as the interest; that the King and Privy Council shall decide as to the disposition of the fund, rate of interest at which it shall be loaned, and all else touching the matter. well-to-do are not yet satisfied with the bill. The thought of having the government in possesgraziers, or, in fact, to any one who can give securities to the satisfaction of the Privy Conneil, at lower than marked rates of interest, is not a pleasant one to lenders and plantation agents. The cry is that "rings" will be formed by which all

pleasant one to lenders and plantation agents. The cry is that "rings" will be formed by which all tractable citizens will be drawn toward the government, and that together they will be able to ireeze out the lactious and furbulent. The cooler headed and more lar-seeing in the community do not lear the least disturbance in financial matters. They say that the govern ment will not be able to loan money at any better rates than the bank or moneyed men generally on good securities, and upon other than good securities no one can afford to loan at any rate, and that if the government is pleased to take up the chaff the evil will soon cure itself by bringing government to a standstill.

The bill to raise a loan and to dispose of it for the good of the country as it now stands having passed its second reading, provides for borrowing \$1,000,000 at seven and three-tenths per cent interest per year for ten or twenty years, and to use it in promoting immigration, interistand steam navigation, a warehouse system, loans upon island produce and public improvements generally. The natives opposed to King Kalakana—called the Queenities, on account of their adherence to the Dowager Queen Emma—do not like the bill, looking unon it as an attempt to rush the country will follow. They have sent a petition to the Assembly, praying that the bill be rejected and threating a riot in case it passes.

The present debt of the country is \$255,000, not a large one, when we consider the assets of the government. The water works, esplande and wharves would wipe it out and leave a bandsome margin. If the expenses of the government can be kept within the revenue receipts there is builttle danger of an increase of debt. The Assembly commenced to be economical, but natives do not understand economy, and the restraint was soon broken through, and at the close of the session we find them appropriating money most interest of the Collector General of Customs on the exports of the Knugdom is very encouraging. Sugar is gaining ground steadily as to quan

A TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES.

The question of a treaty of reciprocity with the The question of a treaty of reciprocity with the United States is again being mooted. Some of the California papers, notably the Alla California and the Bulletia of San Francisco seem to have relented and talk quite reasonably of helping us to obtain the boon. A bill has passed the Assembly intended to authorize the King and his Ministers to effect such a treaty whenever the opportunity offers, without reference to the Legislative Assembly. A provision of our constitution makes it necessary that any treaty affecting the tariff shall be passed upon by the Assembly before it can be binding. The anxiety to have such a treaty was so great that a majority of the Assembly men voted for the bill, eithough warned that it conflicted with the constitution. The Advertiser says that the vote on the bill will not lail "to exercise a moral effect," Lyon which country is not stated. VICTORIA CONGRATULATES KALAKANA.

About the last ray of hope that the queenites clung to—namely, that the Queen of England would interfere in behalf of their candidate, has been rudely dispelled by the publication of Queen Victoria's letter of congratulation to His Majesty King Kalakana. The tardy recorpt of this letter was a source of much comfort to the opponents of the King, without which they are rendered despairing. Rumored threats of another riot circulate about once a month, but the community is becoming so familiar with the threat that it is treated quite contemptuotasy. So far as the general bubbic is concerned it is generally believed that she is living a lite of quiet and dignified retirement, helping to nurse her estates into a healthier condition.

NAVAL NEWS.

Of ships of war we have a comfortable complement now in our harbor. From seniority of arrived from valparaiso. The ships give a business-like look to the narbor, as they are businy refitting. The crew spend their money as Jack proverbially does, seemingly anxious to be rid of it.

The ships give a business-like look to the narbor, as they are businy refitting. The crew spend th

lous to be rid of it.

PRIENDLY BEHAVIOR OF HIS MAJESTY.

The captains and officers having had an audience with his Majesty, and the ice being broken, there is a very pleasent interchange of civilities between ship and shore.

We hear rumors that the Pritish line of steamers, connecting the Americalian and New Zealand ports.

connecting the Australian and New Zearand p with San Francisco, is to be discontinued, hope that they will not prove true.

#### THE LATEST WONDER.

Music by Electricity-An Unpleasant Blast-News for the Bandsmen.

The present century is without a parallel in the world's history in the rapid and substantial growth of scientific knowledge, and the numerous practical applications made for the material benefit of mankind in almost every department of the arts and sciences.

Inventors have been busy training the powerful

arms, the deft fingers and the tireless nerve of the forces of nature to perform the tasks which our fathers could only accomplish by slow, manual labor, by tedious and wearisome exertion or by slowly acquired skill. But amid the general progrees made in almost every branch of mechanics and art the want, long felt, for some invention to facilitate the production of music has remained

in a sister fine art, photography has shown how readily and skillfully light can draw, exceiling even the best trained pencil in the perfect accuracy and minute perfection of its work, and the idea has long been entertained by scientists that there might probably also be some natural agent perform for him the more irksome part of bis protession, the manual execution, as distinguished
from the composing and arranging of musical
compositions. Your correspondent has just had
the pleasure of witnessing the successful application of electricity to this purpose. The idea of the adapted to lighten the labors of the musician, and compositions. Your correspondent has just had the pleasure of witnessing the successful applica-

inventors, Mesers, Schmoele, of Philade, phia, is not only to play by electricity, but also to employ

READ THE VERY NOTES from the printed sheet; and this they have not only succeeeed in accomplishing, but have demon-strated its entire feasibility and practical working in the pioneer instrument, which I have inspected and to whose performance I have listened.

THE MUSIC is printed on sheets or rolls of paper by the process which printers use for illuminated work, the notes, instead of being in ink, appearing in gitt marks, such as are frequently seen in fancy cards, circulars, &c. Being metal, these notes are conductors, and are distinguished by the electric cur-rent from the paper, which is a non-conductor, and are thus read off with the certainty and rapidity which characterize the movements of this most subtle and dexterous force.

THE READING APPARATUS
consists of diminutive metallic fingers, set closely together, so as to occupy little space. The music sheet moves gently under these fingers, electric connection being made as the gilt notes pass

A series of wires connect the reading apparatus with the performing parts, and thus the different notes on the music sheet are telegraphed to the different parts of the instrument.

A most surprising part of the invention is that a small battery, of the size of a single half pint table glass, is sufficient to operate the whole instrument.

The pioneer instrument which I have seen consists, as far as now completed, of an organ of fourteen stops and a drum corps of a bass and a tenor drum, cymbals, triangles and bells; the parts yet to be finished being the violin corps and the plano forte. The finished parts represent the wind pieces of an orchestra from the horns to the flutes. Their performance is extremely accurate and the time well kept; their tone is very full, distinct and poweriul. A point of special remark is the vigor of the horn music, so different from the drowsiness of that class of instruments as inserted in organs. In Strauss' autograph waitzes, one of the selections which I heard played, these instruments were brought out in the horn passages with specially fine effect, braying with the vigor of a brass band.

The drum corps also was remarkably well handled, a most interesting feature being the differ ence in the force of the blows, struck according as the accent was desired to be loud or soft. This was especially apparent in the cymbals, which collided at times with the full vigor of a heavy clash and again were barely typed together, the gradations being represented to the electricity by differences in the shape of the notes upon the mu-sic sheet.

collided at times with the full vigor of a heavy clash and again were barely tipped together, the gradations being represented to the electricity by differences in the shape of the notes upon the music sheet.

In addition to the printed sheet music the electricity, by an ingenious contrivance, may be made to play any piece prepared by hand. This may be done by simply cutting holes in a sheet of paper, where the notes should be, and placing a metallic plate below the points of the fingers. These latter, when such holes pass under them, fall through and touch upon the plate, which answers the purpose practically of the printed glit notes. In this manner any piece of music can be easily prepared by hand, a facility of practical value to a musician. An organist, for instance, could write out at his leisure the music he wishes to play, studying the effect of each passage and altering and improving where desired, until he has produced a superb composition, which, besides, need not be limited, as at present, to what can be performed by ten fingers and the pedals, but can contain any number of notes.

The glit or printed sheet music may be produced with all the facilities offered by the press for indefinite multiplication. This leature will bring electricity into every parior as the automatic performer of our household music. It saves not only the expense, but the time and the labor of learning to play; it plays more varied and better music than can be done by hand, and it is ever ready, ever in humor and untiring in its performance. When persons can buy sheet music, which will play their planos for them at sight and without their assistance, instead of requiring to be studied out and played by patient and diligent practice, the value of electricity as a household musician will be fully realized, and it will come to constitute one of those invaries which we cannot do without.

Besides the automatic reader, the instrument is simply an electric attachment. keach key, on being adapted, as it really is, to the whole range

Again, there is an almost unlimited power of coupling which simply involves a contact of wires. Not a key moves except those directly played upon, and yet organ may be coupled to organ and octave to octave as many as may be desired.

The keyboard can be placed at any distance from the instrument, which is a point of advantage to the performer, as it enables him to judge the better of the style and effect of his own playing. Besides this, the separation of the keyboard from the instrument itself would enable the latter to be placed in such position in a building as will best conform to the architectural design and the laws or resonance, while the performer can have his desk situated in any convenient place, as, for instance, facing the congregation in a church or among the musicians in a concert room or theatre. The drawstops can be worked at pleasure without taking the hands from the keyboard. This is done by means of a pedal which can call out or in any or all the stops at the pleasure of the player. The particular stop or stops desired are indicated to the electricity by taps of the foot, differing for each stop and easily learned, so that the player has complete control of the instrument and can be changing his stops continually during the performance without interrupting the music in the order of their loudness and just as slowly, or as rapidly as the player may indicate, and it can turn them off in the same way as signalled by the movements of the foot. This pedal gives the player the most unlimited control over the instrument.

Finally, that great desideratum ever herotofore totally unattainable in the organ—namely, accent, and be obtained by electricity. The player, by a light pressure upon the keys, obtains a light and soft tone, by a firmer touch the tone correspondingly increases in strength, until under his heaviest pressure, the music comes out with powerful force.

lie can also accent any individual note in a

rgan.
These great and radical advantages of the elec-

is characteristic of the unaccenting or mechanical organ.

These great and radical advantages of the electric keyboard would alone be sufficient to cause its universal adoption, even were they unaccompanied by the music reading powers of electricity.

The instory of this invention afords another striking example of what perseverance, accompanied by well directed and intelligent effort, can accomplish. A grance at the instrument displays at once not only great ingenuity on the part of the inventors, but a thorough practical as well as theoretical knowledge of mechanics, acoustics, electricity and music. I feel assured that their success will be recognized by the ever-progressing scientific searcher, as well as by the amateur musician, and am confident that in no other city than our own will the invention meet with a more speedy practical acknowledgment and demand. The growth of an industry, the result of this invention, which seems inevitable, will no doubt suggest to our business men to draw the inventors to New York.

The instrument is already attracting an extraordinary amount of public attention. The directors of the Philadelphia Academy of Music have carefully studied its different parts and recognize in the organ something that leads them to consider whether they had not better order one built for their orchestra. The motive power of the instrument, too, is such that, while blending in perfect harmony the horns, drums, flutes, flies, cymbals and violins, it could at the same time be subserved to various other purposes. The battery which really creates the music could with the proper connections ring the church belis and sound the steam winstles of every city in the Union at the same moment. It could fire the artiliery of the nation, and in every particular fulfil all conditions of Gilmore's widest dream.

There is nothing harsh or dissonant in the tones of this instrument. It plays with the grace, precision and exactness of the oldest and best schooled orchestra. In fact, it is an orchestra which can never

## AUSTRALIA.

Protest Against the Transportation of Convicts to the United States.

Foolish French Vigilance at New Caledonia.

PROPOSED PACIFIC CABLE ROUTES.

SYDNEY, July 4, 1874 The feeling among all the better class of citizens here is in decided opposition to the recent scheme proposed for ridding this colony of its dangerous population. "Will America submit to become the receptacle of the felons of New South Wales ?" was a question asked by a member of Parliament during one of the recent acrimonious debates arising out of the proposed exile of Gardiner and his twenty-three associate bushrangers. Not since the period when these desperadoes kept a portion of the colony under a reign of terror has the public mind been so exercised upon any ques-tion of public bolicy as it has been upon this pro-posed act of elemency. Two thousand citizens of Sydney have petitioned the Governor not to release Gardiner's gang, and a still more emphatic protest in the shape of an address from the Legis-lature only found twenty-six dissentients. Since the debate it was stated that during the present year forty-eight long-sentenced convicts had been Californian line of steamers has been made to serve the double purpose of mail boats and convict transports. It was stated that Sir Hercules Rob toson would not outrage public opinion by carrying out his proposed release of the yet incar-cerated banditti. If he does it will be at the loss of his office, or I am much mistaken in the character of a wealthy member of Parliament who has pledged himself to bring the matter

BEFORE ENGLAND'S PARLIAMENT AND THEONE When this transport system was first inaugurated it was intimated to the authorities at Washington, through your columns, and now it is asked what steps have the United States government taken to stop this importation of rumansmonsters to whom the "Sydney ducks," who in former days the California Vigilance Committee were so partial, were novices in crime. The subject just referred to prolonged the session of Parliament a month longer than was intended, and it was not until last Thursday week that His Excellency made his second prorogation speech. As usual, it was a string of meaningless platitudes, fitting to terminate the longest and most resultless ession known in the history of the colony. When it opened the position of the ministry was stronger than any of their predecessors could ever boast of. At its close they had lost much of their prestige, saw defection in the ranks of their supporters and saw defection in the ranks of their supporters and heard out of doors a general outcry against some of their official acts. It is a most unfortunate thing for New South Wales that almost every Premier she has had has been approfessional polician, to whom office meant daily bread for self and family. There has only been one who could be called a man of independent means, and he became so dirgusted at the everlasting struggle for the loaves and fishes incidental to government departments that he retired in disgust. In the sister colonies the opposite has been the rule. Francis, McCulloch, Micholson, O'Shannassy, Heales, Premiers of Victoria, were all men of affuence, having leisure and means to devote to increasing the prosperity of their adopted country. These men placed it in the van of Australian colonization, despite the greater natural resources and and the problem of Australian colonization, despite the greater natural resources and almost boundless extent of territory to which the parent colony could lay claim. They have worked out the problem of responsible government with the most gratifying results, while their Sydney contemporaries have been trying "how not to do it."

contemporaries have been trying "how not to do
it."

FHE NEW REGIME AT NEW CALEDONIA.

Paschal Grousset, when lampooning M. Simon,
French Consul General at Sydney, tor his ill-timed
attack on the Rochefort party, could hardly have
anticipated such a speedy conclusion to the official
career of his "untrathrul" countryman as that
which resulted from the escape of the Communists. The same steamer that brought Admiral Ribout here to investigate that matter took away M.
Simon without receiving a single farewell demonstration, such as usually marks the departure of a
member of the Consular corps. Ribout's adventhas establighed a new regime at New Caledonia.
The coast is closely watched, and it is not improbable that the recently evoked

OVERZEALOUSNESS OF THE NAVAL OFFICERS
on the station will occasion the interchange of
diplomatic correspondence between Paris and
London. Oue case occurred recently and bas been
brought officially before the government of Queensland. A labor-seeking vessel called the Chance,
belonging to that colony and having on board a
duly certified government official, called in at
Nounea, entered and cleared there in the regular
form. After leaving that port she took the northern passage to pass through the barrier reef, but
while doing so was compelled to anchor for want
of wind. A French war steamer was forthwith
despatched in chase, the vessel was boarded,
seized and towed back to Noumea, where her
papers were again examined under protest, found
that she must go to sea through the Dombea pass
only. The capitality application to be towed as

seized and towed back to Noumea, where her papers were again examined under protest, found regular, and she was released with the intimation that she must go to sea through the Dombea pass only. The captain's application to be towed as far on his course as he had been illegally towed back was treated with contempt.

RIBOUT'S MISSION.

Nothing has yet transpired relative to the result of Ribout's mission, more than what has been mentioned. It is, however, quite certain that if the French government had courted the defeat of his object they could not have adopted a more certain course of action than by announcing who their special agent was and what he had to do. To obtain any information of what is transpiring in the Communist camp it will soon be necessary to have ingress to the innermost circle of official life; yet with all the increased surveillance and suppression of current news it has leaked out that in the early part of last month a party of Communists were detected in a cave constructing an open boat in which they purposed leaving the island, trusting to be picked up by some passing vessel.

IN STATU QUO.

Nothing fresh has transpired here regarding the

which they purposed leaving the island, trusting to be picked up by some passing vessel.

IN STATU QUO.

Nothing fresh has transpired here regarding the cession of Piji more than the receipt of despatches for Consul Layard. These have been forwarded by a special war steamer, but as the Commodore still remains at anchor in Sydney it is almost certain that no instructions have yet arrived to take formal possession, an official act strictly within his province.

formal possession, an official act strictly within his province.

THE PACIFIC CABLE BOUTE.

After an ineffectual effort to take the first of the deep sea soundings for the Sydney and New Zealand cable the discovery ship Challenger resurred to this port through stress of weather. Five days elapsed before she again resumed her work, the results of which are daily expected from New Zealand. The other cable route, to which the credit of the colony is pledged, has been already surveyed, and as soon as the contractors are ready to lay it from Banjowangie to the Gulf of Carpentaria they will find Queenshand government officials at the latter place ready to receive it and connect their land lines.

Government statistics for the year cuding 31st march last, issued a few days ago, give some interesting facts for home readers. At that date the colony had in round numbers a population of 560,000 souls, owning 238,342 hogs, \$28,014 horses, 2,710,342 head of cattle and 19,225,590 sheep. The acreage under crop was 458,828 acres, of which 4,325 were in vineyards, 6,670 of sugar cane, 16,589 of orchards and gardens, the balance under cereals and green crops. The yield of the vineyards produced 575,985 galons of wine, 1,916 galions of brandy; the cane crop, 14,627 cwt. of sugar.

#### ROBBERY IN A SLEEPING CAR.

An Invasion of Sneak Thieves Upon Slumbering Travellers-Who is Responsible? Several communications have been received by

the HERALD from persons who complain of a some-what extraordinary robbery that took place in a sleeping car a few evenings ago. The writers state that in the train from Buffalo, coming east, on Friday night, and which left that city at twenty-five minutes past eight P. M., was the Wagner sleeping coach "City of Niagara;" that this coach was fully occupied, and that some of the passengers retired before the train reached Rochester. The passengers state that they are quite certain that the doors of the steeping coach were locked and that all was secure when the train left Rochester. On leaving Albany some of the passengers missed their vests, watches, chains, money and pocketbooks. They immediately made application to the porter, notified him of their losses and inquired for the conductor. The porter told them that the conductor had left the train at Albany. The only explanation obtainable of this remarkable robbery was given by the colored porter, who said that a number of thieves from the Saratoga races got on the train at Rochester and in all probability left it at Albany. The question still remains unanswered as to the mode by which the thieves unlocked the doors of the cars. The victims of this robbery seem to suspect certain cofficials, who they think must have unlocked the doors for the thieves. Now that the matter is put so plainly by the victims, it will be the duty of the railroad company to institute B rigid inquiry. Otherwise much of the pleasure and convenience of travelling in sleeping cars will be destroyed. ner sleeping coach "City of Niagara;" that